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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 004816

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT - INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM:
AFTERMATH OF LONDON BOMBINGS G-8 AGREEMENTS ON CLIMATE AND
AFRICA IRAQ - RUMORS ABOUT BRITISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL
PARIS - MONDAY, JULY 11, 2005

(A) SUBJECTS COVERED IN TODAY'S REPORT:

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM: AFTERMATH OF LONDON BOMBINGS
G-8 AGREEMENTS ON CLIMATE AND AFRICA
IRAQ - RUMORS ABOUT BRITISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL

B) SUMMARY OF COVERAGE:

HEADLINES, REPORTS AND COMMENTARIES CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON LAST WEEK'S TERRORIST BOMBINGS IN LONDON. AS THE INVESTIGATION PROGRESSES, MEDIA HEADLINES POINT TO A "MOROCCAN LEAD" (LE JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE AND LE MONDE) WHILE OTHERS INCLUDE A SYRIAN CONNECTION (LE FIGARO). EDITORIALISTS PRAISE THE COURAGE OF LONDONERS, UNDERScore THE COOPERATION OF INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IN EUROPE AND EMPHASIZE THE "BARBARIANS' STRATEGY OF TERROR." (LE JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE.) IN AN OP-ED IN LE FIGARO FRANCOIS GERE OF THE FRENCH INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC ANALYSIS, WRITES ABOUT THE "STRATEGIC ERROR OF GOING TO WAR AGAINST IRAQ" AND THE "TACTICAL ERRORS" OF NEGATIVE PROPAGANDA PROVIDED BY "GUANTANAMO, ABU GHRAIB AND THE DEFILEING OF THE KORAN INCIDENT." (SEE PART C) IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER ECONOMIC LES ECHOS, RICHARD HAASS SIGNS AN OP-ED TITLED: "THE FIGHT AGAINST TERROR REQUIRES A GENERAL CONSENSUS." "FOR TOO LONG, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS TOLERATED TERRORISM. BECAUSE THOSE WHO SOME CALL TERRORISTS ARE SEEN BY OTHERS AS FREEDOM FIGHTERS." SEVERAL OUTLETS REPORT ON THIS WEEKEND'S STORY IN THE MAIL ON SUNDAY ABOUT A MEMO FROM DEFENSE MINISTER JOHN REID WITH A SCENARIO OF TROOP PULLOUT FROM IRAQ. (SEE PART C)

THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE G8 ELICIT SEVERAL REPORTS, WITH THE SAME TAKE AS LAST WEEK'S: A MINIMAL AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE AND PROMISES TO FIGHT POVERTY IN AFRICA. LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION INTERVIEWS TOGOLESE ECONOMIST YVES EKOUE AMAIZO, OF THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION WHO IS RUNNING FOR THE POST OF WTO DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND WHO CRITICIZES THE G8 ACTION PLAN FOR AFRICA: "AFRICA IS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PICTURE, BUT THERE IS NOTHING CONCRETE." ON THE CONTRARY LEFT-OF-CENTER LE MONDE IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE G8, ESPECIALLY REGARDING GLOBAL WARMING. (SEE PART C)

(C) SUPPORTING TEXT/BLOCK QUOTES:

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM: AFTERMATH OF LONDON BOMBINGS

"A STRATEGY OF BARBARITY"
JEAN-CLAUDE MAURICE IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER LE JOURNAL DU DIMANCHE (07/11): "THERE IS NO NEED TO EMPHASIZE THE COWARDICE OF THOSE BEHIND SUCH CARNAGE. NO ONE CAN IGNORE THE 'CAUSE' BEHIND THESE ACTS: IT IS NEITHER THE WAR IN IRAQ, NOR THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT, EVEN IF THESE FOSTER RANCOR AND FRUSTRATION. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO ESTABLISH A GREAT CALIPHATE, DESTROY THE WEST, ITS MISCREANTS AND THEIR LIFESTYLES. AS TONY BLAIR SAID, THE TERRORISTS DID NOT TARGET GREAT BRITAIN ALONE, BUT ALL DEMOCRACIES. OUR DEMOCRACIES MUST STOP TOLERATING, IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH, THOSE WHO PREACH HATE AND MURDER. BUT WE MUST ALSO BE CAREFUL NOT TO FALL INTO THE TRAP OF AMALGAMATION BETWEEN THE TERRORISTS AND THE RELIGION WHICH INSPIRES THEM. TO MAKE ISLAM THE ENEMY IS TO FALL INTO THE TERRORISTS' TRAP. OUR ANSWER MUST USE THE WEAPONS OF DEMOCRACY."

"KILLING DEMOCRACY"
FRANCOIS ERNENWEIN IN CATHOLIC LA CROIX (07/11): "AL-QAEDA'S TERRORISTS WANT TO MAKE US BELIEVE THEY ARE SERVING A CAUSE. BUT TERRORISM IS BUT THE EXPRESSION OF A DESIRE FOR POWER WHOSE PROJECT RELIES EXCLUSIVELY ON THE AMOUNTS OF BLOOD IT CAN SPILL. TERROR, BY SPREADING DEATH AT RANDOM, WANTS TO TRIGGER THE MORAL DEATH OF DEMOCRACY."

"FIRST LESSONS FROM LONDON"
FRANCOIS GERE IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER LE FIGARO (07/11): "THE 'SUCCESS' OF THE LONDON BOMBINGS MUST NOT HIDE THE RECENT SUCCESSES BY EUROPEAN POLICE IN THE DISMANTLING OF MANY THWARTED ATTEMPTS. COOPERATION BETWEEN POLICE AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS ACROSS EUROPE HAS BEEN RE-ENFORCED. EUROPE IS NO

LONGER A LAND OF ASYLUM FOR TERRORISTS. AL-QAEDA IS NOT A PHYSICAL ENTITY AS MUCH AS A SOURCE OF IDEOLOGICAL INSPIRATION. AS SUCH, IT FEEDS ON THE STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL ERRORS COMMITTED IN THE BATTLE AGAINST TERROR. THE STRATEGIC ERROR WAS TO HAVE ATTACKED IRAQ, WHOSE GOVERNMENT NEVER HELPED THE SALAFISTS. IRAQ SERVES TODAY AS A BASE FOR TRAINING JIHADISTS FROM THE ARAB PENINSULA, THE MAGHREB AND EUROPE, AND WHO ONCE TRAINED, RETURN TO THEIR HOME BASE. TO THIS ONE MUST ADD A NUMBER OF TACTICAL ERRORS. THE TREATMENT OF DETAINEES IN GUANTANAMO AND ABU GHARAIB AND THE KORAN DEFILING INCIDENT HAVE BEEN FEEDING PROPAGANDA ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST. IF WE WANT TO STOP THE RECRUITMENT OF SALAFISTS, WE MUST NOT PROVIDE FODDER FOR THEIR ARGUMENTS. AT THE G8, BLAIR WAS ABLE TO FIND THE RIGHT WORDS, WHEN HE SPOKE OF THE NEED TO REDUCE INEQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE."

G-8 AGREEMENTS ON CLIMATE AND AFRICA

"A G-8 OF UNION"

LEFT-OF-CENTER LE MONDE IN ITS EDITORIAL (07/11): "THE PICTURE THAT WILL REMAIN IS THAT OF THE SOLIDARITY EXPRESSED BY ALL FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND THE ABSOLUTE REJECTION OF TERRORISM. WHILE THE SUMMIT WAS NECESSARILY UPSET BY THE BOMBINGS, IT NEVERTHELESS REACHED, IF NOT DECISIVE, AT LEAST FRUITFUL ACHIEVEMENTS. AS IF WORLD LEADERS WERE EAGER TO PROVE THEY COULD OVERCOME THEIR NATIONAL INTERESTS. COMPARED TO OTHER G8 SUMMITS, THIS ONE TURNED INTO A SOMEWHAT PARADOXICAL SUCCESS. THE NUMBER ONE SUCCESS CONCERNS DEVELOPMENT AID FOR AFRICA. WITH BLAIR GETTING WHAT HE WANTED. IT IS UP TO NGOS TO MAKE SURE THE COMMITMENT TURNS INTO ACTIONS. THE SECOND AREA OF SUCCESS CONCERNS GLOBAL WARMING. THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT CONFIRMED THE POSITION HE ADVERTISED IN DENMARK ON JULY 6 ABOUT HUMAN ACTIVITY AFFECTING GLOBAL WARMING. EVEN IF PRESIDENT BUSH DOES NOT RATIFY KYOTO, THE FACT THAT HE MADE THIS DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE SEEMS TO SIGNAL A NEW AWARENESS. THIS EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN POSITION HAS FOR THE FIRST TIME ALLOWED THE ADOPTION OF A 'PLAN OF ACTION' IN FAVOR OF LESS POLLUTING ENERGIES. BUT THE PLAN STILL LACKS CONCRETE COMMITMENTS AND CONTAINS NO FINANCIAL PROMISE. IT IS THEREFORE AT THE SYMBOLIC LEVEL THAT THIS COMPROMISE HAS IN FACT MARKED THE EVOLUTION OF THE G8. IT IS A FIRST STEP, ALBEIT LIMITED WHEN FACED WITH THE LEVEL OF URGENCY. WE COULD SEE IT AS ONLY A 'MARKETING' CAMPAIGN ORCHESTRATED BY THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT, AS THE ECOLOGISTS SEEM TO SEE IT. WE CAN ALSO READ IT AS A SIGN OF HOPE."

IRAQ - RUMORS ABOUT BRITISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL

"TOWARDS A WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH TROOPS FROM IRAQ?"

THOMAS DE ROCHECHOUART IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER FRANCE SOIR (07/11): "EVEN IF THE MEMO BY (U.K) DEFENSE MINISTER REID WAS ONLY ONE SCENARIO AMONG MANY, IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT BRITISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ IS MENTIONED WITH SO MUCH CLARITY. ONE THING IS CERTAIN: WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN A SHORT INTERVENTION HAS SLOWLY BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A MISSION OF OCCUPATION. AND AS THE SITUATION WORSENS ON THE GROUND, THE TRAP SEEMS TO BE CLOSING IN OF THE COALITION SECURITY TROOPS. THE IRAQI FORCES HAVE PROVEN THEIR INABILITY TO STAUNCH THE SPREAD OF VIOLENCE. HENCE THE DILEMMA: LEAVE IRAQ AND LEAVE A BATTLE GROUND WHERE THE WINNER WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ISLAMIC ORGANIZATIONS; OR STAY AND BECOME THE HOSTAGE OF A CONFLICT THAT IS EVERYDAY RE-ENFORCING TERRORISM AND FANNING FEELINGS OF HATE AGAINST THE MEMBERS OF THE COALITION. WITH THE LONDON BOMBINGS, IRAQ IS ONCE AGAIN A THORN FOR THE BLAIR GOVERNMENT." STAPLETON